

Message from the City Manager

Dear Residents,

In these tight economic times, Troy continues to provide the very best in City services while keeping our tax rate one of the lowest in Oakland County. We have very hard working, dedicated City employees who continue to serve our residents each and every day.

As the Mayor and City Council, along with our Management team, sit down to put together a fiscally responsible budget for 2009-10, we as Troy residents should remember how very fortunate we are to live in one of the highest-rated communities for our service, economy, public safety, schools and trained workforce. Our quality of life is second to none. People choose to live in Troy because it provides the best of what we need in excellent balance.

Case in point - *CNNMoney.com* named Troy the #1 Best City to Live in Michigan and #22 City in the Nation and we recently received the news that we are once again the #1 safest City in Michigan. Our Troy Family Aquatic Center and the Troy Community Center indoor pool won international recognition from *Aquatics International Magazine*, and our Fleet Maintenance Division was recognized once again as one of the top 20 most efficient Fleet Operations in North America.

While no one is fond of paying bills, and that includes taxes, we must remember that our taxes are an investment in our community. The Community Affairs Department produced a video "What Do I Get for My Property Taxes" that is being shown on our government channel (10 WOW/53 Comcast) and our website www.troymi.gov. This video helps explain from a resident's perspective the investment we receive from our taxes. I am sure you moved here because of our excellent schools, services, library, parks and safety. Well, \$1.22 per person, per day does not seem like much to pay for Troy being the safest City in Michigan, #1 best Michigan City in which to live and

a City with a top-notch Library, Museum and Nature Center and excellent Parks & Recreation programs.

While no one can predict the future, you can certainly have a say in shaping Troy's future. We always welcome citizen input and it is of paramount importance for the City of Troy to partner with all stakeholders in creating a shared vision for our community to assure Troy remains a City in which one aspires to live and work.

Because we live in such an energetic and progressive community, I know Troy residents will continue to be willing to take the time to help others. As we move forward, let's continue the spirit of volunteerism that contributes to the success of the City. Thanks to groups such as the Friends of the Troy Public Library and the Troy Historical Society, as well as local business sponsors; We will continue to offer you and your family free or very low cost quality programs and special events. Remember to support our volunteer organizations as well as our local businesses as we work together to get through these tough times.

And as you proceed with your day-to-day activities, know that your input is important to us. Please feel free to contact Cindy Stewart, Community Affairs Director at 248.524.1147 or cindy.stewart@troymi.gov with your comments.

Very Truly Yours,


Phil Nelson
City Manager



City Directory

Troy City Offices & Facilities

Animal Control (Police Dept).....	248.524.3477
Assessing Dept.....	248.524.3311
Board & Commission Information	248.524.3316
Building Inspection.....	248.524.3344
City Clerk	248.524.3316
City Manager.....	248.524.3330
Community Affairs	248.524.1147
Emergencies.....	911
Engineering.....	248.524.3383
Fire (non-emergency)	248.524.3419
Human Resources	248.524.3339
Police (non-emergency).....	248.524.3477
Public Works	248.524.3392
Recycling / Solid Waste	248.524.3399
Senior Citizens	248.524.3484
Treasurer.....	248.524.3333
Water & Sewer Services	248.524.3370

Troy Elected Officials

Louise Schilling, Mayor	248.524.3500
Robin Beltramini, Councilwoman	248.879.8898
Cristina Broomfield, Councilwoman	248.879.2175
David Eisenbacher, Councilman	248.619.7119
Wade Fleming, Councilman	248.310.3626
Martin Howrylak, Mayor Pro Tem	248.643.6653
Mary Kerwin, Councilwoman	248.879.7909

Troy Public Library

Adult Services	248.524.3537
Circulation	248.524.3538
Front Desk	248.524.3538
Outreach	248.524.3554
Troy Historical Museum	248.524.3570
Youth Services	248.524.3541

Troy Parks & Recreation

Community Center Rec Passes	248.524.3484
Family Aquatic Center.....	248.524.3514
Parks & Recreation Hotline	248.689.9756
Recreation Programs	248.524.3484
Sanctuary Lake Golf Course	248.619.7671
Senior Citizens	248.524.3484
Stage Nature Center	248.524.3567
Sylvan Glen Golf Course	248.619.7674
Troy Community Center	248.524.3484

Troy School District

Administration Building	248.823.4000
Adult & Community Education	248.823.5100

Other Recreation Organizations

Baseball Boosters	248.689.6390
Boys & Girls Club of Troy	248.689.1687
Racquet Club	248.528.3400
Youth Football	248.879.5715
Youth Soccer League	248.524.0170

Important Assessment Information

Near the middle of February, Troy residential property owners will receive a "Notice of Assessment, Taxable Valuation and Property Classification" from the Assessing Department of the City of Troy.

You will more than likely see a reduction in the Assessed Value, and in many instances, an increase in the Taxable Value of your residential property (including condominiums).

This is very similar to what occurred in 2008. There are some slight differences that should be clarified concerning your residential Assessment, and estimated taxes for the 2009 Assessment Year.

For the 2009 Assessment Year, the State of Michigan has once again mandated a One-Year Residential Sales Study for the City of Troy, in order to more closely reflect the decline in residential property values in the City.

This year's study runs for the fiscal year of the State for 2008, which is October 1, 2006 through September 30, 2008.

In a normal residential market, with increasing property values, a Two-Year Sales Study is used. These studies end as of March 31 of the year prior to the Assessment Year, in order to insulate the taxpayers from escalating Market Value increases.

The year 2009 marks the third straight year that residential assessments have been reduced in the City of Troy. The average reduction last year was 4.5%.

For the 2009 Assessment Year, the One-Year Sales Study shows an average reduction in residential property values of 8.2%. This is the average - citywide. There will be subdivisions within the City of Troy that will show Assessed Value decreases far greater than 8.2%, and there will be subdivisions in the City of Troy that will still show a slight increase in Assessed Values from the 2008 values. There are 279 different residential neighborhoods in the City of Troy to compare.

Unless your Assessed Value drops below your Taxable Value, you will not see a corresponding decrease in taxes.

Let me explain why that is the case.

In 1994, the voters of the State of Michigan passed a Constitutional Amendment that was commonly known as Proposal A. Proposal A not only changed the basis for local school funding, but it also dramatically changed the way taxes were levied against property values.

Prior to 1994, taxes were levied against Assessed Values (also referred to as State Equalized Values). Assessed Values must reflect not more than 50% of the Market Value of a property. Thus any change in Assessed Value resulted in a similar change in taxes.

Proposal A changed this by adding two more terms to the Assessing lexicon - Capped Value and Taxable Value.

Taxable Value is the lesser of Assessed Value or Capped Value. It is also the value that millages are levied against to determine a property's taxes.

Proposal A limited (capped) any increases in Taxable Value to 5% or the rate of inflation, (consumer price index, CPI; 4.4% or 1.044 multiplier for 2009), whichever is less. This capping process is exclusive of 'loss' (physical demolition, fires, natural disasters)



that remove a portion, or all of, a structure, or 'new' (physical additions to the property).

Thus, the calculation of the 2009 Capped Value becomes: (2008 Taxable Value minus losses) times the CPI (1.044), plus new.

Since Assessed Value still represents 50% of the Market Value of a property, Assessments may increase (or decrease) by whatever percentage is necessary to maintain the 50% level.

Taxable Value, however, has been 'capped' by the CPI or 5%, since 1994.

As you can imagine, in most areas of Troy, the Assessed Value is much higher than the Taxable Value. Assessed Values have increased an average of 6.81% per year since 1994, while Taxable Values have increased an average of 2.67% per year in that same period.

There are specific instances where the Assessed and Taxable Values are the same number, or very close to the same number, and a reduction in Assessed Value will result in a reduction in Taxable Value. These instances are rare, and not the norm.

Overall, the City of Troy will see a reduction in total Taxable Value. This is due to the large amount of vacancy in the Commercial and Industrial classes of property, and the reduction in Personal Property caused by these vacancies.

As you consider the 2009 Assessment placed against your property, and try to decide if you should appeal your Assessment to the local Board of Review, bear in mind that if the taxes you are paying are your main issue, you will have to be sure that your property is worth less than two times your Taxable Value in order to see a reduction in taxes.

As always you may call, or visit our office for an explanation of your Assessment. A review, and any warranted change in your Assessment, may be done by the staff of the Assessing Department at any time between the receipt of your "Notice" and the first day of the Board of Review (March 3, 2009). Once the Board is in session only they can change your Assessment.

Neither the Board of Review nor the Assessor can change your Taxable Value without evidence of a physical loss to the property, or barring a reduction in Assessed Value below the proposed Taxable Value.

Sincerely,

City Assessor, Nino Licari

Look for annual Assessment Change notices in the mail



The Assessing Department mailed Notice(s) of Change in Assessed Value in the middle of February. If your property experienced a change in value for 2009, a notice was generated and mailed to the taxpayer of record.

This notice lists the 2008 and 2009 numbers representing

- Assessed Value
- Tentative State Equalized Value
- Capped Value
- Taxable Value
- The difference in value between the two years

The Assessed Value and Tentative State Equalized Value listed on this form represents 50% of the estimated Market Value of your property. It represents both physical changes in your property for the year as well as market-generated changes.

The inflation rate for 2008 is 4.4%.

Capped Value

The Capped Value listed on this notice is 2008's Taxable Value times 1.044 based on the State of Michigan Consumer Price Index (CPI). This value may only change by the 4.4% CPI subject to physical additions or losses.

In other words, this value may only be higher than a 4.4% increase when there are additions in value from new construction. This value may be less than the 4.4% increase in value if there are losses in value caused by the physical removal of property, or losses in occupancy for income producing property.

The Capped Value calculated with this formula:

2009 Capped Value = $[(2008 \text{ Taxable Value} - \text{Losses}) * 1.044] + \text{additions}$.

Taxable Value

Your 2009 Taxable Value is the lesser of the Assessed Value or Capped Value. This is the value you pay taxes on. Exclusive of a change in ownership, or changes due to additions or losses, your Taxable Value should increase no more than 4.4%.

If there was a change in ownership of a property in 2008, State law dictates that your 2009 Taxable Value is the same as the 2009 Assessed Value.

Appeals Process

You may appeal the change in Assessed Value only to the March Board of Review. The Board meets:

- **Tuesday, March 3 from 1-9 pm**
- **Monday, March 9 from 9 am-5 pm**
- **Tuesday, March 10 from 1-9 pm**

If you wish to appeal in person, you must schedule an appointment no later than March 9. You may make an appeal in writing received by the Assessing Department no later than March 10.

If you wish to protest the Assessment placed against a property you have purchased in 2008, please provide a copy of the deed, closing statement, and/or construction contract for new construction.

Correcting Errors

Staff in the Assessing Department can review and correct (if an error has been made) assessments prior to the start of the Board of Review.

Sales Studies that were used to determine Market Value Adjustments for your property are available at the Assessing Department for review Monday through Friday from 8 am to 4:30 pm.

Poverty Exemption

Poverty Exemption affidavits have been mailed to persons who qualified for this exemption last year.

If you feel you may qualify for an exemption from taxes because of financial hardship, contact the Assessing Department by March 10.

Staff will be able to assist you in determining if you qualify.

You may then decide whether to submit an affidavit to the Board of Review.

Need more info?

For more information on property assessments and the Board of Review, call the Assessing Department at 248.524.3311 or check out our millage rates on Troy's web site – www.troymi.gov – click on City Departments - Assessing.

Common neighborhood concerns

Is an unoccupied home or property in your neighborhood looking unkempt? The City has minimum standards designed to maintain the integrity of buildings and property. If you have questions about a specific property's condition or would like to report a questionable property, please contact the Building Inspection Department. You can also Report an Ordinance or Code Violation from the "Services" tab on the City of Troy homepage.

Grass and weeds must not exceed 10 inches in height. Ornamental plantings, cultivated gardens, trees, and shrubs are exempt. If you have concerns about a property with tall grass or weeds, please contact the Building Inspection Department.

Are you having a garage/yard sale this year? Temporary sale signs are allowed on private property, but there are limits. Please do not place signs in the public right-of-way, as they will be removed. Before you display your sign please check the regulations on pg. 10.

Storing or parking recreational equipment at your house? In residentially zoned districts, recreational vehicles can be stored anywhere on the property for up to a 48 hour period. At all other times, recreational vehicles and equipment must be stored inside a completely enclosed building or located behind the front face of the house, and no closer than 3 feet from the side or rear property line. Recreational vehicles cannot be stored or parked on vacant lots.

For more information, call 248.524.3359. Please visit our "Building Inspection and Code Enforcement FAQs" page at www.troymi.gov/FAQ/BuildingInspection.

Troy wins best fleet award



The Troy Fleet Maintenance Division was recognized yet again as one of the top 20 most efficient Fleet Operations in North America. The honor comes from CCG Systems. They rank the 100 best peak-performing fleet operations. Only 760 of the 38,000

fleets in North America were given the privilege to apply for this honor. Troy is regarded as exceptional based on twelve criteria.

Fleet supervisor provides top service

CCG-Faster, Inc., a software company for more than 325 fleets across the US and Canada sponsors an annual "Hero" Award. The purpose is to award an individual or team who make a positive difference in the way fleets provide service. The 2008 Hero Award recipient is Mike Blitchok, Fleet Maintenance Field Supervisor, for consistent preventive maintenance compliance at 98-100% monthly, as well as, the implementation of a steel and aluminum salvage program with proceeds going to the fleet operating budget. Blitchok also is instrumental in the preseason vehicle prep sheets for winter and summer equipment which dramatically reduce the fleet division's call-in/over time.



Troy provides stellar aquatic facilities

The Troy Family Aquatic Center and the Troy Community Center indoor pool won international recognition from *Aquatics International Magazine* (November/December 2008 Issue) as having the Best Overall Commitment to Aquatics. Read the magazine article here: www.aquaticsintl.com/2008/boa/1a.html.

4th Annual Non-Profit Management Conference Thursday, April 23

Walsh College, 3838 Livernois

8:30 am-4 pm

The Non-Profit Network and the Troy Chamber of Commerce present this conference that will help you manage your group's structure and fundraising. Many of us are involved in volunteering for a charity, be it a school group, church, community or national organization. Conference registration includes four breakout sessions, continental breakfast, lunch, and entry into the onsite expo.

Seminars will be held on topics related to finance/accounting/risk management, fund development/donor relations, technology, governance/operations, leadership, strategic planning, and marketing. The event's keynote speaker will be nationally recognized photojournalist Linda Solomon. Registration is \$50 for Troy Chamber members and \$95 for non-members. Call 248.641.8151 to RSVP.

Local votes show Troy Museum is a must-see

The Troy Museum & Historic Village was voted as one of the "Top 4 Best Museums in Metro Detroit," in WDIV (Channel 4)'s "Vote 4 the Best" 2008 contest!



Here's what some of the Museum's visitors said:

- I LOVE the Troy Museum and Historic Village. What a gem!
- Wonderful museum. An asset to our community and a great place for families. Great staff.
- One of the best kept secrets in Metro Detroit. Keep it up Troy!
- Great fun for kids, especially the school house and blacksmith shop. Great value.
- Great place, lots of activities, highly recommended.
- It is nice to see that the City of Troy remembers its history and preserves a place to showcase it. Nice Job Troy!
- I love our Troy Museum & Historic Village. This is my all time favorite field trip with my children!
- A very special nugget of the past right in the middle of the City of Tomorrow. A very cool place to spend an afternoon listening to music, get married, or learn a bit about history.
- Great place to visit and casually roam around.
- Seldom can one find so much local history so easily available and accurately presented as at the Troy Museum and Historic Village. It's a great place, not only for exhibits, but for its multitude of excellent programs for adults and children.
- Enjoyably educational for all ages!
- It's such a great place to learn about how things were in Michigan towns in the mid-19th century—and—the size is great for children. The staff is very knowledgeable and always helpful. The programs and facilities are quite unexpected in such a small place. What an asset for the City of Troy!!

To read more comments, visit the "Museum" page under "Arts and Entertainment" at wdiv.cityvoter.com/4-the-best-guide. See the Museum's spring programs on pages 29-30 of this magazine.

Troy remains the Safest City in Michigan

The recently released CQ Press City Crime Rankings for 2008-2009, places Troy as the 21st safest U.S. city with a population of 75,000 and above. This ranking establishes Troy as the safest city in the state of Michigan within the 75,000 plus population group.

Serious crime rates in Troy are well below the national and state average. The Troy Police Department and the citizens it serves can be proud of this accomplishment.

"Given Troy's location in a major metropolitan area, the presence of a major freeway in the city, and significant commercial development, the low crime rate is a notable achievement," said Police Chief Charles Craft. "The Police Department recognizes this ranking as the result of a highly dedicated, proactive staff supported by a community willing to get involved."

The Police Department recognizes that the safest city ranking does not mean there is an absence of crime and that such designations mean little to those who have been victimized. The department takes seriously the occurrence of any crime and is dedicated to enhancing their already high level of service.

Curbside recyclables

1. All paper is recyclable. Place all fiber items - including **newspapers, inserts, office paper, catalogs, envelopes, junk mail, magazines, paperbacks, brown grocery bags, paperboard (such as cereal, shoe, and tissue boxes or paper towel cores), etc.** - inside brown paper grocery bags (preferred) or plastic grocery bags
2. Put **shredded paper** in a small clear bag and twist tie it closed
3. **Cardboard boxes, corrugated cardboard, and boxboard:** fold, flatten, or cut into bundles 2' x 2' x 1' and tie with string or use duct tape
4. **NEW! Paperboard beverage containers** (example: clean orange juice or milk cartons, ice cream cartons, and clean drink boxes)
5. Recycle **telephone books**
6. **NEW! Clean green and blue glass bottles** are accepted in addition to **clear and brown glass bottles**. Lids can remain on glass bottles
7. All clean **plastic containers** are acceptable, no need to check for the number on the bottom. Please remove hard plastic caps (i.e. soda caps). Plastic lids, such as yogurt or margarine lids, are acceptable. Plastic includes margarine tubs, yogurt containers, milk jugs, water bottles, detergent bottles, shampoo bottles, plastic tubs, trays, buckets, microwave dishes, plastic flower flats, etc.
8. **Metal cans/metal lids/pie tins/small metal objects:** clean, place loose metal lids inside metal cans and flatten. Metal objects include hangers, pots, other small household items
9. Empty **metal aerosol cans (cleansers, hairspray, etc.)** and **metal paint cans** with the lids removed
10. Place any **household batteries** in a clear plastic baggie



Live in an apartment? You can still recycle

While it does require extra effort, those who live in apartments can use one of Troy's two recycling centers. Make it a regular errand once or twice a month. When you set aside cardboard, newspapers, plastic or glass and keep them out of landfills, you help reduce the negative impact our society has on our environment.

Tringali Recycling Drop-off Center

33373 Dequindre - north of 14 Mile Road
248.585.9120

Open: Mon-Fri, 7 am-5 pm

Accepts plastics, newspapers, cardboard, tin, and small metal objects.

SOCRRA Recycling Drop-off Center

995 Coolidge Hwy., north of 14 Mile Road
248.280.0828

Open: Mon-Fri 8 am-4 pm; Sat 8 am-12 pm
Materials accepted at the SOCRRA dropoff center - All curbside collected items (listed in the left column) PLUS:

- **Plastic bags, only at SOCRRA** - any size, any color, clean and empty with no twine or hard plastic handles. Example: shopping bags, grocery and produce bags, dry cleaning bags, newspaper bags, etc.
- Automotive and lead acid batteries
- Scrap metal
- Clean used clothing, shoes, and toys
- CDs, DVDs, VHS tapes, and cassettes
- Hardcover books

Recycling electronics

Electronics recycling: Call SOCRRA at 248.288.5153 to schedule a drop-off appointment for electronics and household hazardous waste.

Program accepts computers, monitors, printers, toner cartridges, TV sets, telephones, radios, cell phones, copy machines, fax machines, stereos, VCRs, and CD players. No charge for Troy residents.

The only trash containers over 35 gallons permitted in the City of Troy are the 90-gallon polycarts from our waste hauler Tringali Sanitation. These containers can be hydraulically lifted by the garbage truck. To purchase a polycart call 248.585.9120.

Yard Waste pick-up resumes on April 6

Troy homeowners should put grass clippings, pencil-thin twigs, plantings, sod, old flowers, corn husks, leaves, etc. out on their weekly refuse pickup day. Place them in a regulation trash container with a "yard waste" sticker. If you use a labeled trash can(s), and need stickers, just stop by City Hall (500 West Big Beaver), Public Works, (4693 Rochester) or call 248.524.3399. Brown paper yard waste bags are also acceptable. Never put yard waste in plastic bags.

Branches less than 2 inches in diameter are yard waste. Cut down to three ft. lengths, securely tied and bundled, less than 60 lbs. **Maximum five bundles per week collected.**



Troy: Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle!

We need Troy residents to recycle.

Avoiding disposal fees is one of the primary goals of any recycling program. The more materials are reduced, reused, and recycled, the less waste is disposed. The less waste disposed, the fewer trash pickups are required, and there are lower disposal fees. Any way to decrease waste handling costs will add to the success of the program.

Lowering costs for the City of Troy benefits all residents.

SOCRRA credits the City of Troy \$55 per ton for all recycled items picked up at the curb. So instead of paying full disposal costs, our disposal bill is reduced. The City of Troy had more than \$122,000 deducted from our bill of \$1 million to SOCRRA for 2007. Of this amount, more than \$99,000 was for all the types of paper accepted: newspapers, magazines, catalogs, junk mail, construction paper, envelopes, loose leaf paper, computer paper, office and school papers, etc.

If you need a recycling bin or further information please call 248.524.3399.

Our Solid Waste Coordinator is available for informational meetings or classes. Tell your homeowner's or volunteer organization to take advantage of this service.

The most efficient and cost effective way for residents of Troy to recycle is to use the curbside recycling program.

Compact Power brings life to Chevy Volt

Compact Power Inc. of Troy has won a multimillion-dollar contract to develop the lithium-ion battery system for the Chevy Volt. General Motors announced that the company, which is a subsidiary of LG Chem, would develop the battery system for the vehicle that was first shown at last year's North American International Auto Show. The automobile boasts the ability to travel 40 miles on battery power while a small engine with a generator would extend the Volt's traveling range to 640 miles.

LG Chem will manufacture the battery cells in Korea, and CPI will produce the battery packs for the Volt until GM's battery facility is operational. Compact Power expects to build 400 vehicle battery packs for GM this year. For more information, visit www.compactpower.com.

CareTech Solutions continues to grow

CareTech Solutions is a Troy-based company that specializes in providing IT support and services to the education and health care community. Their work includes computer networks, data networks, and websites. For five years, this company has experienced tremendous growth in sales and workforce. Recently, the company was faced with the decision of where to locate their expanded operations and approached the State and City for assistance. The company was able to secure a MEGA tax credit that will ensure that the \$28 million investment and 440 additional jobs being created in Michigan, 150 of those being in Troy.

Somerset Pontiac GMC Inc. gives location a facelift

After serving the Troy community for more than 30 years, Somerset Pontiac GMC Inc. has remodeled their location (at 1850 W. Maple Rd.) in order to better serve their customers. With a reputation built on trust and professionalism, their long list of referrals and awards are well deserved. Somerset Pontiac GMC is one of 16 dealerships to win the North America Distinguished OnStar Circle of Excellence Award. Also, they were listed in the top 100 dealers out of all 7,300 GM Dealers in the country for volume and customer satisfaction award.



ABC Warehouse moves to new location

ABC Warehouse, formerly located on W. Maple Road, is moving to a new location near the Oakland Mall. The site was previously occupied by CompUSA. ABC Warehouse is currently in the process of redesigning the building to meet the needs of their customers. The final site plan has been approved and the company is planning for a spring opening. The demolition of their old location has already begun. For more information on the new store and their appliances and electronics, go to www.abcwarehouse.com, or visit them at 637 John R Rd.

Beaumont opens a new unit for cancer and hospice

Beaumont Troy opened a 12,500-sq.-ft. unit for cancer patients who need treatment or hospice care. The larger-than-standard private rooms provide comfort for family members who want to spend long stretches of time with their loved ones. Hospital staff asked patients and their families what would make their care experience at the hospital better and staff incorporated their suggestions into the new unit. The rooms have chairs that turn into twin-size beds and private bathrooms where family members may shower. Carpeting throughout the unit helps to create a quiet atmosphere.

Beaumont has been designated by the National Cancer Institute as a Community Clinical Oncology Program, one of only 50 in the country that connect academic centers with physicians who enroll patients in medical research.

Starbucks adds life to Crooks & Big Beaver corner

The corner of Big Beaver and Crooks roads has another tasty offering for Troy residents as a Starbucks Coffee has opened their doors. Customers will find a vast range of Starbucks coffees along with a variety of teas and specialty drinks to enjoy as you relax in the comfy chairs by their inviting fire place. Also offered are tempting treats to complement each cup of joe. Visit them at 1434 W. Big Beaver.



Looking for commercial space?

Are you a business looking to locate within the City of Troy? Are you not sure where to start when searching for available properties? Troy's Real Estate & Economic Development Department is here to assist in the site selection process. Using various development resources, staff can assist in preparing a list of potential industrial, office and commercial locations that meet your needs for a facility. Staff can arrange for tours of the facilities and warm introductions to the brokers representing the properties. If necessary, confidentiality of the project can be provided until the necessary time.

Businesses can also take advantage of business development support services including zoning and ordinance orientation, financing, business planning and incentives. If you would like to discuss your business's plans for growth in the City of Troy, please contact our Real Estate & Economic Development Department at 248.524.3498.

Binson's builds to double their size, expand their services

Since 1991, Binson's Home Health Care Centers has been serving the Troy community by offering quality products and services to those with home health care needs. Recently, the growing business expanded in more ways than one by building a brand new home for their Troy location. As construction ended in late 2008, the shop opened their doors to the new 12,000-sq.-ft. building. The new location is nearly double the size of their old home and allows for the company to offer expanded services and more products for their clients, including a Lady Binson's Boutique, expanded Orthotics services, and increased inventory of larger items like scooters and seat lift chairs. For more information, go to www.binsons.com, or visit them at 6475 Rochester Road, just ½ mile north of their previous location.



iRobot "Roombas" its way to Troy

As Automation Alley prepares to celebrate its 10th anniversary in September, the organization also welcomes its 1,000th member, a high-tech robotics firm based in Massachusetts that is in the midst of opening an office in Troy. iRobot Corp. specializes in behavior-based robots designed to help people complete various tasks that require navigating in complex situations. They are opening the Troy location to work more closely on other robotics projects with the U.S. Army Tank Automotive Research, Development and Engineering Center in Warren. Their most notable product is the iRobot Roomba Vacuuming Robots, which became the best selling consumer robot in history after selling nearly 3 million worldwide.

Since 1990, the company has grown to a \$249 million public company and employs more than 400 of the robot industry's top professionals, including mechanical, electrical and software engineers. For more information, visit <http://store.irobot.com>.

Bharatyia Temple expansion

Phase I of the temple expansion project has been completed. The phase consisted of 34,000-sq.-ft., two-story building which houses a prayer hall and deities' area on one floor and a banquet hall on the other. A connector building houses classrooms and offices.

Phase II is now underway which includes work on the exterior enclosure, shikharas, and domes, plus completion of the interior work. Materials are being procured through the Natural Stone Depot of Bahrain. The target for occupancy is spring 2010. Follow the progress at www.bharatiya-temple.org. Bharatyia Temple is located at 6850 Adams at S. Boulevard.

Athens teens, the Troy Library, and local business PODS join forces for literacy charity BetterWorldBooks

Athens High School students, Adam Campbell (senior) and Kate Dickerson (freshman), as members of their school's Invisible Children Club, have worked for the past two months collecting books for the BetterWorldBooks nonprofit organization. BetterWorldBooks raises money for Books for Africa, the National Center for Family Literacy, Room to Read, and the World Fund.

Together Adam and Kate have collected more than 15,000 books since December with assistance from the Friends of the Troy Library. They also held book drives within their neighborhoods and received donations from the Royal Oak Library.

Local business owner Tim Turczyn, from PODS (Portable On Demand Storage) donated the use of a POD that has been located in a parking lot at Athens since December. BetterWorldBooks will travel to Troy to collect Adam and Kate's book donations.



Eagle Fasteners

Eagle Fasteners Inc. recently decided to call the City of Troy home with the purchase of a 24,000-sq.-ft. industrial building located on Park St. Formerly located in Auburn Hills, the company designs and manufactures plastic injection molds. The company employs 15 people and plans to grow with this larger facility.

Quantum Lift

Quantum Lift is the new owner and occupant of an industrial building located on Elliott Drive in Troy. This privately-held company sells and services industrial hi-los and lift devices. Relocated from Royal Oak, the company employs 10 people. Visit www.quantumforklift.com for details on equipment rental and care.

Pizza Papalis & Rio Wraps unite for a variety of dining choices

Pizza Papalis and Rio Wraps have opened a joint location across from Oakland Mall. Owners Tom Stegeman and brothers Joe and Mark Sheena own both companies and decided to combine the offerings in one establishment. The new restaurant has a full bar and Rio Wraps stations in the front, and in the back is seating for 100 with a TV in every booth of the restaurant.

Pizza Papalis has been expanding in the Detroit area since they began in 1986. This is their first Troy location and ninth restaurant. Their famous deep-dish pizza has pastry-like crust with Wisconsin cheese and Italian tomatoes. They are located in the Oakland Plaza at 300 John R, north of 14 Mile. Dine-in or have it delivered by calling 248.589.9888.

Somerset additions

Two new stores have joined the Somerset Collection. Herve Leger by Max Azria showcases a collection of couture and deluxe ready-to-wear designs. Lately many starlets have been wearing his bandage dress, the signature of the collection.

Lululemon Athletica features athletic apparel. Join them for a complimentary in-store yoga class on Sundays at 11 am. Call 248.649.6267 for details.

Also note that Mimi Maternity at Somerset has changed its name to Destination Maternity. They remain in the same location.

1. Livernois (Main St.) Reconstruction, 14 Mile to Maple

This project is under the jurisdiction of the City of Clawson. Livernois has been reconstructed from just north of 14 Mile to Maple Rd. to a new five lane concrete pavement. Included with the project were drainage improvements, traffic signal improvements, sidewalk and sidewalk ramp replacement, and water main replacement. The road is open to traffic. Final project cleanup and restoration will take place this spring, requiring intermittent lane closures to facilitate cleanup and restoration activities.

2. Water Main Replacement & Drainage Improvements, NE ¼ of Section 9

The project will replace the existing water mains with new 8" and 12" water mains on: Houghten, Wright, Florence, Blanche, Habrand, McKinley, Deinmore, and Fabius (west end). The work will also include drainage improvements on both sides of the road. Construction started in Dec. and is expected to last into the summer. Final restoration and cleanup will take place during the summer and fall.

3. Rochester Rd., Torpey to Barclay and Wattles Rd., 1,000' east and west of Rochester Rd. Utility Relocations

Overhead and underground private utilities (gas, electric, cable, etc.) will begin relocating their facilities in late winter 2009 in preparation for the reconstruction and widening of Rochester Rd., from Torpey to Barclay and Wattles Rd., east and west of Rochester Rd. The majority of this utility company work will be in the greenbelt area, outside of the existing road, so significant impacts to traffic are not anticipated. The widening and reconstruction of Rochester Rd. is anticipated to begin in early 2010.

4. Coolidge at Golfview Traffic Signal Improvement

The traffic signal at Coolidge and Golfview will be upgraded to include dedicated left turn phases for northbound and southbound Coolidge traffic. The project will also include sidewalk and sidewalk ramp improvements to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Construction is anticipated to begin in April and be open to traffic in May. This project is part of a larger road contract that also includes projects at Livernois at Big Beaver and Livernois at Wattles. Restoration and final project clean up at all three locations will be completed this fall.

5. Livernois Southbound at Big Beaver Right Turn Lane

A new right turn lane will be constructed for southbound Livernois to westbound Big Beaver. The project will also include traffic signal improvements and sidewalk ramp improvements to be ADA compliant. Construction begins in May and should be open to traffic in July. This project is part of a larger road contract that also includes projects at Coolidge at Golfview and Livernois at Wattles. Restoration and final project clean up at all three locations will be completed this fall.

6. Livernois Northbound at Wattles Right Turn Lane

A new right turn lane will be constructed for northbound Livernois to eastbound Wattles. The project will also include traffic signal and sidewalk ramp improvements to be ADA compliant. Construction begins in July and will be open to traffic in September. This project is part of a larger road contract that also includes projects at Coolidge at Golfview and Livernois at Big Beaver. Restoration and final project clean up at all three locations will be completed this fall.

7. Big Beaver at Rochester Enhancements

This project will improve pedestrian safety at all intersection crosswalks by upgrading the sidewalks and cross walks to be ADA compliant. A new park area with landscaping, sidewalks and other aesthetic enhancements will be constructed at the northeast corner of the intersection. Work begins in the late spring. Restoration and project cleanup will take place this fall.

8. Big Beaver at I-75 Interchange Enhancement

This project will add significant landscaping in and around the interchange at I-75 and Big Beaver. Enhancements under the I-75 bridge will decrease under bridge noise for pedestrians, enhance day and night time lighting under the bridge, improve aesthetics and enhance pedestrian security and mobility within the Big Beaver business corridor. This project will also improve pedestrian safety at all intersection crosswalks by upgrading the sidewalks and cross walks to be ADA compliant. Work is anticipated to begin in the early summer. Restoration and project cleanup will take place this fall.

9. Heide, Thunderbird and Oliver Water Main Replacement

The project will replace the existing water mains with new 16" water mains on: Heide, from Maple to Oliver; Thunderbird, from Maple to Oliver; and Oliver, from Heide to the east end. The existing road on Heide Street will be completely removed and replaced with new

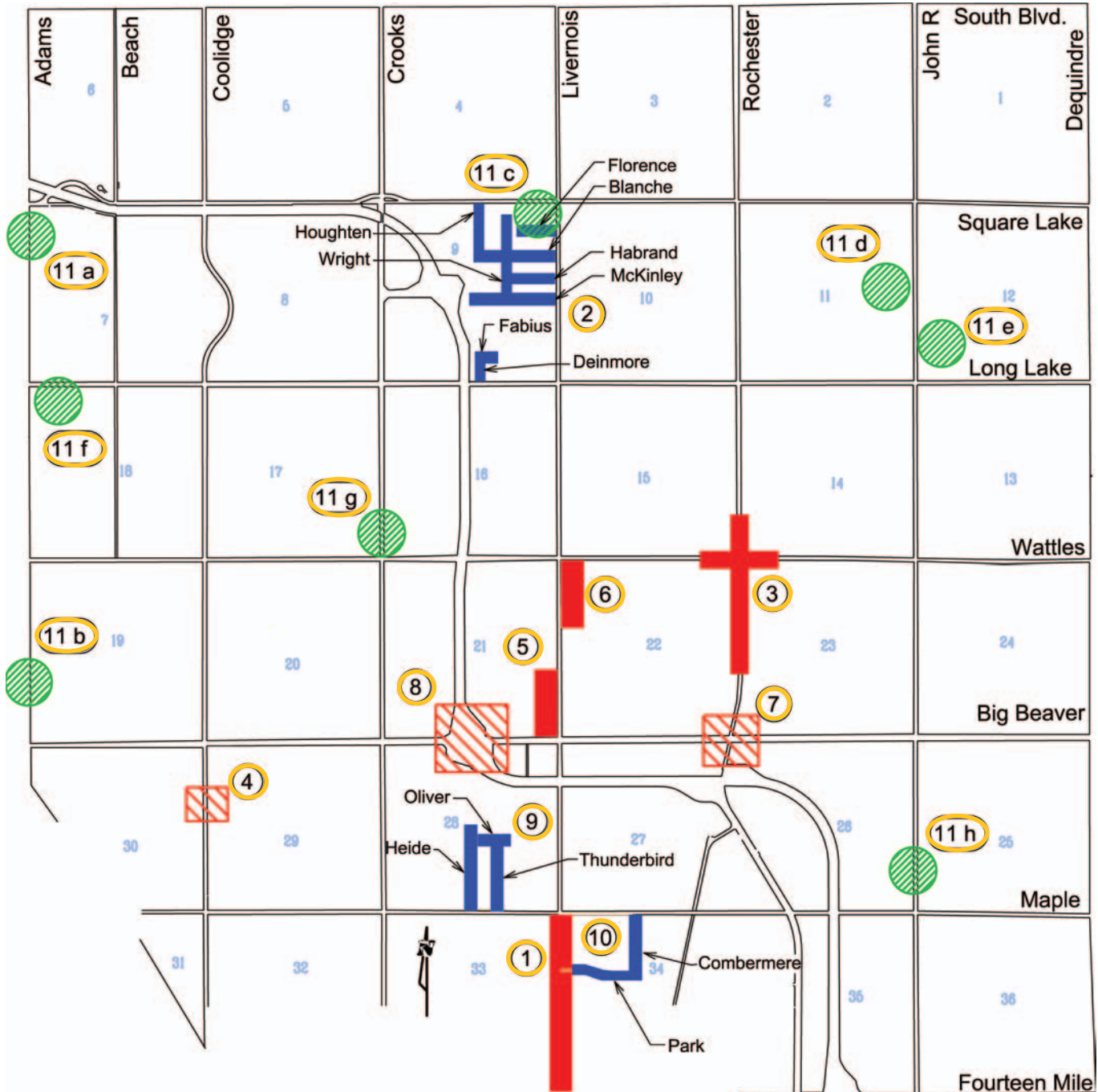
Details on displaying temporary signs

The Troy Sign Ordinance allows all types of temporary signs on private property. These include signs for homes for sale or rent, land for sale, garage sales, estate sales, buildings under construction, political, holiday, and other seasonal signs.

- 1. Size of Temporary Signs: The maximum size of an individual temporary sign must not exceed 6 sq. ft. in area (measured on one side). The total aggregate area of all temporary signs on any one site must not exceed 14 sq. ft. Temporary signs must not be higher than 42 inches above the ground.*
- 2. The signs must be placed on private property, with the property owner's permission.*
- 3. Placement is never allowed in the public street right-of-way (City property). In most cases this means that the signs must be located*

behind the sidewalk. In areas where there is no sidewalk, signs cannot be located closer than 20 feet from the edge of the traveled portion of the roadway.

- 4. Signs can never be attached to a streetlight, street sign, fire hydrant or telephone pole.*
- 5. Signs that are placed in the public right-of-way (City property) will be removed by the City, and stored for a 48-hour period. If you wish to retrieve a sign that has been removed, you must first pay the \$50 administrative fee for each sign. Signs not retrieved within 48 hours will be destroyed.*
- 6. The entire text of the Troy Sign Ordinance can be obtained at www.troymi.gov/CodeAndCharter/Code/CH085.pdf. Call the Building Department at 248.524.3344 with questions.*



concrete pavement. The existing roads on Thunderbird and Oliver Streets will have partial road removal and concrete replacement with joint and slab repairs. Construction will start in the spring. Final project cleanup and restoration will take place this fall.

10. Park and Combermere Water Main Replacement

The project will replace the existing water mains with new 16" water mains on Park, from Livernois to Combermere and Combermere, from Park to Maple. The existing roads on Park and Combermere will have partial removal to facilitate the construction. These roads will be repaired and an asphalt overlay will be placed as the final pavement surface. Troy Court, from Park to the cul-de-sac will have spot concrete slab replacements. Construction is anticipated to start in the spring. Final project cleanup and restoration will take place this fall.

11. Sanitary Sewer Construction at Various Locations

The project will provide sanitary sewers at the locations below:

- Adams Road, south of Square Lake
- Adams Road, between Wendover and Newgate
- Canham, from Haldane to the south end
- Holm, from Abbotsford to Hopedale
- Tucker, from John R to the east
- Valley Vista Circle and Court
- Crooks Road, Wattles to the north
- John R, from Virginia to Larchwood

Construction starts in April and lasts through the summer. Final project cleanup and restoration will take place this fall.

Passport application services available at City Hall



The Troy City Clerk's office serves as an official Passport Acceptance Agency and accepts applications from U.S. Citizens from 8 am-4 pm, Monday-Friday. Photo services are also available for a \$10 fee.

Applications for Passport Cards for land and sea crossings between the United States, Canada, Mexico, Bermuda and the Caribbean are now available. Further information regarding Passport Cards, the passport initiative requirement and passport processing times can be obtained on the City website at www.troymi.gov or by contacting the City Clerk's office at 248.524.3316.

Required Documents

Adults 18 & Older	Minors 16 & 17	Minors 14 & 15	Minors 13 & Younger
Passport Valid for 10 yrs.	Passport Valid for 10 yrs.	Passport Valid for 5 yrs.	Passport Valid for 5 yrs.
Proof of Citizenship	Proof of Citizenship	Proof of Citizenship	Proof of Citizenship
Certified birth certificate required unless <i>previous</i> passport is submitted	Certified birth certificate required unless <i>previous</i> passport is submitted	Certified birth certificate required and <i>previous</i> passport (if applicable)	Certified birth certificate required and <i>previous</i> passport (if applicable)
Proof of Identity	Proof of Identity	Proof of Identity	Proof of Identity
Applicant MUST be present	Applicant & ONE parent MUST be present	Applicant & BOTH parents MUST be present or ONE parent with notarized form	Applicant & BOTH parents MUST be present or ONE parent with notarized form

Note: Birth certificates executed by the Troy Clerk's office **CANNOT** be accepted.

Passport Fees

Important: Applicant MUST provide TWO separate forms of payment; one to the City of Troy and one to the U.S. Dept. of State

Adults 18 & Older and Minors 16 & 17		Minors 15 & Younger	
City of Troy: \$25	US Dept. of State: \$75	City of Troy: \$25	US Dept. of State: \$60
Photo: \$10		Photo: \$10	
Cash, check, money order or debit card accepted.	Check, money order or cashier's check accepted.	Cash, check, money order or debit card accepted.	Check, money order or cashier's check accepted.
Payable to City of Troy: \$25 or \$35	Payable to U.S. Dept. of State: \$75	Payable to City of Troy: \$25 or \$35	Payable to U.S. Dept. of State: \$60
Additional Fees & Postage for EXPEDITED Services			
Postage Fee: \$16.50	Add'l Fee & Postage Fee: \$60+\$14.85	Postage Fee: \$16.50	Add'l Fee & Postage Fee: \$60+\$14.85
Payable to City of Troy: \$41.50 or \$51.50	Payable to U.S. Dept. of State: \$149.85	Payable to City of Troy: \$41.50 or \$51.50	Payable to U.S. Dept. of State: \$134.85

Passports for border crossings: Beat the crowd, apply today

Effective in June 2009, U.S. Citizens must present a valid U.S. Passport Book, U.S. Passport Card, or other travel document approved by the Department of Homeland Security when entering the United States from Canada, Mexico, the Caribbean, and Bermuda at land border crossings or sea ports-of-entry.

First-time Applicants 16 years & older:

Execution Fee: \$25 – Payable to: City of Troy
Passport Card Fee: \$20 – Payable to: U.S.

Dept. of State

Renewal Applicants 16 years & older:

Execution Fee: N/A

Passport Card Fee: \$20 – Payable to: U.S.

Dept. of State

Applicants 15 years & younger:

Execution Fee: \$25 – Payable to: City of Troy

Passport Card Fee: \$10 – Payable to: U.S.

Dept. of State

Photo Fee: \$10 for two required 2x2 photos

Dog licenses

Be a good neighbor and keep your dog safe by following these City ordinances.



Aristotle

- Leash your dog in all public areas including all City parks, school grounds, sidewalks, etc. A dog's leash must be three times the length of the dog or 10 feet in length, whichever is greater.
- Remember to clean up after your dog in public areas.
- Be courteous and quiet your barking dog.
- Know where your dog is at all times. Animal Control Officers will pick up unleashed and unattended dogs.
- Dogs may be tethered during daylight hours for a period not to exceed four continuous hours.
- City of Troy dog licenses expire with the dog's rabies vaccination expiration. Provide proof of rabies immunization with every license renewal and when registering a new dog at six months of age or older. License fees are half off for neutered and spayed dogs.

Dog License applications are available online at www.troymi.gov.

City Council Meetings



Upcoming Council Meetings

Mondays at 7:30 pm

March 2, 16

April 6, 20

May 11, 18

June 1, 15

Regular meetings take place in the Council Chambers at City Hall, 500 W. Big Beaver and are open to the public.

City Council meets at least two Mondays per month at 7:30 pm and schedules additional study sessions as necessary. Meeting times and locations may be confirmed through the City Clerk's Office by calling 248.524.3316.

Online: The meeting schedule, agendas, minutes, and webcasts are available on the City's website: www.troymi.gov. Agendas are posted by the Thursday evening before the Monday meeting or as soon thereafter as possible.

At the Library: DVDs and VHS tapes of Council meetings are available for checkout at the Troy Library the day following each meeting.



*Watch Council Meetings
LIVE on WTRY - Troy Cable TV
Channel 10 on WOW
Channel 53 on Comcast
Council Meetings replayed:
Wednesdays @ 10 am
Thursdays @ 7 pm
Sat. & Sundays @ 4 & 10 pm*

Board & Committee Meetings

Watch meetings on WTRY cable, channel 10 on WOW and channel 53 on Comcast. Meetings below are not aired live.

- Planning Commission, Wednesday - 6 and 11 pm
- Planning Study Session, Wednesday - 3 pm
- Board of Zoning Appeals, Friday - 5 pm
- Advisory Committee for Senior Citizens, Monday - 9 am
- Downtown Development Authority, Tuesday - 6 and 11 pm

Webcasts of City Council Meetings are archived on the City website, www.troymi.gov/council/meetings to be watched online at your convenience.

DVDs of Council Meetings are available for \$15 and all other meetings for \$25 by calling 248.524.1147 to order.

Sewer backup law notification

Should you experience a backup of a City of Troy owned sanitary sewage disposal system or storm water system in your home or business you should contact the City of Troy Water and Sewer Department during normal business hours from 8 am-4:30 pm, Monday through Friday at 248.524.3392. During other times of the day and holidays you should call 248.524.3477. You will want to keep people and pets out of the affected area until the area has been cleaned and sanitized.

On December 31, 2001 former Governor Engler signed Public Act 222 which clarifies when a municipality is liable for a sewer backup. If a sewer backup occurs, a municipality is subject to Public Act 222 and a "claimant" may seek compensation from the municipality for damages or injuries caused by the event if the claimant can prove ALL of the following existed at the time of the event:

1. That the municipality is the appropriate governmental agency having ownership of the sewer;
2. That the sewage disposal system has a construction, design, maintenance, operation or repair defect;

Election Filing Deadlines

Candidates must file by Monday, July 27, for Troy City Council and School Board Elections, or by August 11 for the Birmingham and Royal Oak School Board Elections. Troy candidates file with the City Clerk. The others file at Oakland County.

Upcoming Elections

May 5, Warren Consolidated and Lamphere School Districts
November 3, Troy City Council and Troy, Birmingham, and Royal Oak School Boards

Absentee Balloting

The City Clerk's Office will be open extra hours for absentee balloting on Saturday, May 2 from 10 am-2 pm for the Warren Consolidated School District Election. Also open on Saturday, October 31 from 10 am-2 pm for the Troy Council and School Board Elections.

3. That the municipality knew, or reasonably should have known, about the alleged defect;
4. That the alleged defect was not remedied by the municipality in a reasonable time; and
5. That the alleged defect was a substantial approximate cause of the property damage or personal injury; and that you own the property.

In addition, a claimant is also required to comply with the notice requirement. Any sewer backup claim made must be in writing within 45 days after the date the damage or physical injury was discovered. Should you wish to file a claim you will need to contact the Risk Management Department, Stephen Cooperrider, Risk Manager at 248.526.5128. A "Sewer Backup Claim Form" will be forwarded to you to help simplify the 45-day written notice requirement.

Claims should not be filed with the City of Troy if the sewer backup was caused by a blockage or other problem with your own sewer lead. In this instance, contact your homeowner's insurance carrier to determine if you have sewer backup insurance coverage.



Honor veterans at the City of Troy Memorial Day Ceremony

Monday, May 25, 11 am

Honor our nation's heroes at a ceremony with speeches, music, and reflection at the Veterans Memorial Plaza in front of City Hall (500 W. Big Beaver).

Locks of Love Week

May 4 begins Locks of Love Hair Drive Week. If you have 10 inches or more of hair that you'd like to donate, make sure to have your hairdresser put it in a ponytail (or braid) before they cut it. Bring ponytails to the Troy Police Desk during this collection week.

Hair will be used to make wigs for children who have lost their hair due to medical reasons.



Fraud and scam alert: If it sounds too good to be true...it is

- You receive a fax that says you have just won a free vacation. All you need to do is call, and when you call you are asked to verify your identity with your credit card number.
- In retrieving your mail, you find a letter requesting a contribution to a charitable organization whose name is similar to one that is well known.
- You answer the doorbell to find an official-looking and sounding individual who describes a roof problem with your house. He says it violates the building code, needs immediate attention, and offers his company's service to make the repair.
- You receive an e-mail urging you to visit a site that will provide access to information about a cost-free plan for loan consolidation; or an e-mail to help someone overseas in political duress; or an e-mail about a sick child you do not know.

Millions of Americans are learning, sometimes the hard way, to deal with some sort of scam scenario. According to a study performed by the National Institute of Justice, fraud is more common than many other crimes daily reported to the police. Monetary losses are extremely high, running into the billions. The widespread perception of the elderly and the poorly educated as most vulnerable was revealed to have little basis in reality. Fraud was found to be no respecter of age, gender, race, or income. Many of the findings of this study challenged the conventional wisdom that has surrounded these crimes in the absence of accurate and comprehensive information.

Losses: Losses are not just financial. In 20% of the cases in which the attempt succeeded, the victim experienced resultant credit or other financial problems. Health or emotional problems were reported in 14% of these cases, and lost workdays in 13%. In more than one in ten of these crimes, other members of the victim's household suffered significant harm or loss.

The Age Factor: A common belief of people who investigate fraud is that certain groups, such as the elderly, are more vulnerable. This study effectively dispelled that notion. Age does matter, but as the study revealed, older people are less likely to be victimized than younger people. In this respect, fraud victimization follows the pattern of other crimes. When the elderly are victimized, they are less apt than younger people to lose money or property. A partial explanation for the perception of the elderly as more frequently

victimized may stem from their greater tendency to report fraud to the authorities.

Are the Educated Immune?: People at the extremes of the education spectrum (those without a high school diploma and those with a graduate degree) are least likely to be touched by fraud. It is those who have some college or an undergraduate degree who appear to be the most vulnerable to fraud. For an individual to believe that more institutional education means greater ability to deal with con artists could prove a costly belief. Fraud-specific education about the fraud problem may help.

The Combined Effects of Youth and Education: Younger, better-educated people may have wider interests and engage in a broader range of activities. For these reasons they may be more likely to find themselves in circumstances (such as inclusion on telephone or spam lists) that can result in fraudulent solicitations. In addition, the typically lower incomes of young people in general may make them more receptive to promises of fabulous bargains and spectacular opportunities. Compared to their elders, they have not had time to become sadder but wiser about such matter.

Is There a "Typical" Victim?: There is no "typical" fraud victim. Demographic variables such as education, income, age, race, and gender do not significantly influence an individual's likelihood of succumbing to a fraud attempt.

The Most Common Kinds of Fraud: Frauds often cited by experts who investigate these matters are the "pigeon drop" scam, impersonations of bank officials, and fraudulent offers of credit repair. But, the study revealed that auto repair scams, fraudulent prices, phone number swindles, fake subscriptions, and fake warranties were not only attempted most frequently, but were also most likely to succeed.

Circumstances Affecting the Outcome: Frauds in which the prospective victim is acquainted with or has some knowledge of the offender are more likely to succeed than those in which victim and offender are strangers. This makes sense, since acquaintances may inspire trust. Success is also related to the way the contact is first made. Frauds initially attempted through the mail or by phone are less likely to succeed than those made face-to-face, through a third person, through television, or in the print media.

Register your alarm with the Troy Police Department

All residential and commercial alarm users must renew their alarm registration each year. Alarm registrations expire December 31 each year. Registration is due by January 30. **If your alarm is not registered** and causes an emergency response to a false alarm, you will be assessed a fine of \$100 for each occurrence until the alarm is properly registered.

To register your alarm, complete or update your alarm user permit and pay the registration fee of \$10 for each type of alarm control panel in use. (Typically, a household alarm has only one main control panel.)

Please mail or deliver the completed alarm permit application and check for \$10 (no cash please) made payable to the "City of Troy":

**Troy Police Department
Community Services Section
500 W. Big Beaver
Troy MI 48084**

Registered alarms will not be fined for your first two false alarms for the calendar year.

If you would like more information, please call 248.680.7224.

Residential Crime Alert Network

The Troy Police Department Community Services Section administers the Residential Crime Alert Network. This e-mail network is used to disseminate information to Troy residents on current crime trends and safety issues and give crime prevention tips as they relate to the residents of Troy. We are currently accepting Troy residents that are interested in being added to this network list to receive information.

How to get on the list:

Send an e-mail with your information to troydccrimealert@troy.mi.gov providing the following:

Name
Address
Phone Number
E-mail Address

Specify if you would like to receive the residential or business alerts. For more information contact the Troy Police Department at 248.524.3464 or 248.680.7224.

ALARM PERMIT APPLICATION

**Mail to: Troy Police Department-Community Services
500 W. Big Beaver Troy MI 48084**

(COMPLETE IF ALARM IS AT A RESIDENTIAL LOCATION)

APPLICANT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ APT _____ ZIP _____

PHONE NUMBER(S): HOME _____ WORK _____

(COMPLETE IF ALARM IS AT A BUSINESS)

NAME OF BUSINESS: _____

ADDRESS OF ALARM LOCATION: _____

BILLING ADDRESS: _____

BUSINESS PHONE NUMBER(S): _____

(IF APPLICABLE)

ALARM MONITORING COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

PERSONS TO BE NOTIFIED IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _____

OWNER ☐ MANAGER ☐ EMPLOYEE ☐ NEIGHBOR ☐ RELATIVE ☐ FRIEND ☐

KEY TO BUILDING/HOME? YES ☐ NO ☐

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _____

OWNER ☐ MANAGER ☐ EMPLOYEE ☐ NEIGHBOR ☐ RELATIVE ☐ FRIEND ☐

KEY TO BUILDING/HOME? YES ☐ NO ☐

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____ ALTERNATE PHONE: _____

OWNER ☐ MANAGER ☐ EMPLOYEE ☐ NEIGHBOR ☐ RELATIVE ☐ FRIEND ☐

KEY TO BUILDING/HOME? YES ☐ NO ☐

CHECK PAYABLE TO "CITY OF TROY" FOR \$10 MUST BE ENCLOSED

How to prevent a fire in your home

We often cite our homes as the place we feel the most secure. Make sure that your home is truly safe by learning about the common things that cause house fires and tips on how to prevent these accidents.

Cooking

Cooking (primarily stove-top cooking) is the leading cause of home fires. Many cooking fires occur when you put something on the stove but then become distracted or forget about it. Once you realize you lost track of time, the fire can be very large. Solving this hazard is as easy as remaining in your kitchen. If you have to leave the room, turn off the burner before exiting.

Electrical

Faulty or deteriorating electrical cords can cause a fire. When a cord becomes frayed or cracked it can send sparks to combustible surfaces igniting a fire. Perform a household check of all of your cords and replace any that are worn out. Also make sure not to overload circuits by plugging in too many things into one outlet.

Heating

Electric space heaters seem like a great way to save on heating bills, but using them requires special attention. Space heaters need three feet of clear space around in all directions. Keep them away from combustibles including drapes, bedding, and furniture. Make sure that people and pets do not trip over the cord or unit.

Also perform an annual check of your home's central heating equipment. Call a professional to do the check-up and to service your system.

Candles

Decorative candles are another common cause of home fires. Never leave a candle burning in any room unattended. Consider purchasing new battery-operated candles that look and perform like real ones.



Battery-operated wax candles, no fire and no mess!

Smoking

Smoking is the third-most-common cause of home fires — and the top cause of home fire deaths. Fires occur as smokers lose track or their still-smoldering cigarette butts which then come in contact with combustible surfaces like furniture and pillows. The best way to prevent a smoker-caused fire is to have a no smoking policy indoors. Smoking outdoors is less dangerous because there are not as many combustible items. Cigarette butts should be doused with water before they are thrown in the trash to make sure they are completely extinguished.

Fireplaces

If you use your fireplace, have it inspected and cleaned by a licensed/insured chimney sweep. Never place ashes into combustible containers such as bags, boxes, or plastic bins. Never store discarded ashes inside the house or in the garage. Place ashes, even old ashes, into metal containers and store them outside. Consider using the ashes in your garden or compost.

Recent fires remind us of the importance of smoke alarms and an escape plan



United States Fire Administrator Greg Cade asks all residents of this nation to install, maintain and test their smoke alarms. This national effort is a result of one of the deadliest holiday seasons in recent memory and several significant fires in early 2009.

Since Thanksgiving 2008, there have been more than 158 fatal fires in the United States resulting in more than 200 fire fatalities.

"The 2008 holiday season and the start of 2009 may be recorded as one of the deadliest for residential fires in recent memory of the fire service," said Cade. "Not only has there been a significant number of preventable fires, but the occurrences of multiple fatalities resulting from these fires are simply unacceptable within our nation. There should be a smoke alarm protecting every person in this nation today, particularly as we sleep."

Some of the recent fatalities include:

- In Detroit, an elderly couple died in a house fire likely caused by the husband's cigarettes on December 23. On January 11, an electrical fire killed a 67-year-old man.
- Four adults and three children died in a Philadelphia home the day after Christmas when gasoline was used to fuel a kerosene heater. There were no working smoke alarms in the home.
- In Baltimore, two people died in a fire in an apartment above a grocery store. A young couple died in the blaze and investigators found no working smoke alarms in the building.
- In Washington, D.C., on New Year's Day, six individuals died in a house fire. While the cause was listed as accidental/electrical, officials are not sure smoke alarms worked properly.
- Three people, including two teenage girls, died after an early morning house fire in Ringling, Oklahoma. Officials say the fire started while at least two of the victims were still in bed. For the two teenage girls who lived inside the house, this was supposed to be their first day back to school after winter break. Officials say once flames broke out at 4 am, the girls, along with another relative, never made it out of the home.

In the event of a fire, a properly installed and maintained smoke alarm can save your life and those of your loved ones. Smoke alarms are a very important means of preventing home fire fatalities by providing an early warning signal so you and your family can escape. They are one of the best safety devices you can buy and install to protect yourself, your family, and your home. You can prevent tragedies simply by testing and maintaining your smoke alarms and practicing a fire escape plan. All smoke alarms in your house should be tested once a month and their batteries replaced bi-annually or as indicated by the manufacturer's instructions.

Troy Firefighter Women's Auxiliary 11th Annual Euchre Party

March 28 @ St. Lucy's Church (200 E. Wattles)
Arrive at 6 pm

\$27 includes beer, wine, soda, pizza, subs, snacks & door prizes
Call 248.879.7912 or e-mail Noble9091@yahoo.com to sign up

MLK Celebration of Freedom Wrap-Up

Seventh Annual MLK Day Essay Contest

How can the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. influence a current issue in today's society?

First Place, Middle School Division Thomas Griffith, Larson Middle School, Grade 8

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. endeavored to change the way people judged others. Equal opportunity amongst all members of society is what Dr. King promoted. In the 2008 presidential election Dr. King's vision and hope became a reality with a woman and an African American competing for the two highest elected offices in the nation. Dr. King believed that we don't judge people by their race or gender, but rather their actions, and personalities; and that belief was reinforced by the majority of Americans who elected Barack Obama as the president of this nation.

An inspiration to many, a legacy to some, he was a hero, and a role model. Though his life was taken in violence, his actions and words were as peaceful as pebbles in a pond. Dr. King's influence still resonates with the people of America, and the ripples of his words and examples are still impacting society today.

First Place, High School Division Janini Kumar, Troy High School, Grade 9

The teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. influence many current issues in today's society. The major way it influences today's society is the fact that we have elected our first African American President. Barack Obama fulfilled a dream, working to rise to one of the most powerful positions in the world, the highest office in the United States of America. This would not have been possible without Dr. King's persistent struggle. The greatness of his struggle was that it was based on non-violence, a concept which is very relevant in the current day world torn by the ills of terrorism and violence. His wisdom has helped people to be more understanding and tolerant towards people of different races, backgrounds and cultures. It helped to foster universal brotherhood and thanks to his teachings, immigrants of today are treated reasonably fairly and do not face much discrimination.

Also Recognized

High School Division

Second: Tareto Nasari, Troy High

Third: Sam (Yanting) Jiang, Troy High

Middle School Division

Second: Addison Bouzide, Larson

Third: Shannon Hunyadi, Baker

MLK Day Celebration of Freedom united the community

A special thank you goes to all of the Troy School District students and staff members who participated in this special event. Students from all middle and high schools who entered the essay contest; the Troy Honors Choir directed by Carol Petty and Kathy Stein and accompanied by Jane Synnestvedt; Art Exhibit teachers Sarah Clos, Katie Hosbach, Lisa Liske, Kathleen Marquardt, and Jennifer McLellan; Gayle Moran, Pat Rinaldo and food service staff; Gino Minchella, Chris Troy; Dale Bise and custodial staff; and Athens High School for hosting the event.



Essay winners Shannon Hunyadi, Janini Kumar, Tareto Nasari, Thomas Griffith, Sam Jiang, and Addison Bouzide.



On MLK Day, student art was on display from the elementary schools.



The Troy Honors Choir performed a moving presentation titled *I Remember Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*

Financial & In-Kind Services were generously provided by:

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Big Beaver United Methodist Church

Community Bowling Centers:

Troy Lanes & Bowl One

Lutheran Church of the Master

Troy Interfaith Group

Spring Break Troy Style

April 4-11, 2009

for High School & Middle School students

Thousands of Troy students will be on Spring Break. But, not everyone is going to Cabo or Cancun. If you're staying in Michigan, a group of Troy organizations makes sure you will find lots of great activities, deals, and discounts at local businesses.

"The Troy Community Coalition wants middle and high school students and parents to know that there are plenty of things to do right here in town during Spring Break time," says Ann Comiskey, Executive Director of the Coalition.

Take advantage of *discounts* using your school ID at:

- Troy Community Center \$5 Daily Rec passes (or \$10/wk.) includes open swim, fitness room, basketball, open gym. Also check out the free Skate Park in the parking lot. The Teen Scene room is also free (3179 Livernois)*
- Reduced junior rates at Sylvan Glen Golf Course
- Troy Lanes and Bowl One Discount (1950 E. Square Lake or 1639 E. 14 Mile)
- Laser Quest - \$2 off (31401 John R, Madison Heights)
- Troy Sports Center - \$1 off skating pass (1819 E. Big Beaver)
- Skate World (2825 E. Maple)
- Noodles & Company (3199 Crooks & 6836 Rochester)
- Subway (5082 Rochester Road)
- 7-Eleven (2891 Crooks & 5020 John R)
- Papa Romano's (3065 Crooks & 5399 Crooks)
- McDonald's (4819 Rochester & 1200 Livernois)
- Coffee with Cream (4977 Livernois)
- Kalamata Greek Cafe (3149 Crooks)
- Green Lantern (4326 Rochester, Royal Oak)
- Pro Car Wash - Half off car wash (3785 Rochester)

Fun activities just for you include:

- Life Time Fitness offers their Rock Wall and Open Swim, Mon.-Fri., 12-4 pm, \$10 (4700 Investment Dr.)*
- Boys & Girls Club of Troy gives you a one day free pass, Mon.-Thurs., 2-6 pm. Air hockey, video games, pool table, computers, movies, and gym (3670 John R)
- Open Dodgeball at Community Center, Mon. & Fri., 1-4 pm, \$3
- 4th Annual Laser Quest Overnighter, Sat., April 4, 11:30 pm-6 am. Laser Quest games, snacks, breakfast, \$30*
- Gaming at the Library. Free, play Guitar Hero & Super Smash Brawl on Sat., April 4 at 3:30 pm; play DDR & Wii on Monday at 2 pm; and Battle of Rock Band on Thurs. at 6:30 pm (510 W. Big Beaver)
- Euchre Tournament, Thurs. 8-10 pm. Free, winners receive prizes (Big Beaver United Methodist Church, 3753 John R)
- International Cooking Class, \$5, sign up at 248.404.6234 (Faith Lutheran Church, 37635 Dequindre)
- Golf Camp at Sanctuary Lake Golf Course, 248.619.7668

* These events require a form signed by a parent/guardian, so have them stop by in advance or when you get dropped off.



Taste of Troy

Sunday, March 2

1 - 4 pm

San Marino Club

1685 E. Big Beaver

Get some Aussie flavor in your tummy!

Tickets \$40 in advance; \$50 at the door (if available)

Ticket includes raffle entry for an Arizona trip with airfare

Great food from 35 Troy restaurants

Silent Auction, Live Auction, Raffles, and Door Prizes

For tickets call the Boys & Girls Club at 248.689.1687

Troy People Concerned 4th Annual Pasta Event

Saturday, March 28, 5:30-8 pm

Big Beaver United Methodist Church

Enjoy a delicious spaghetti dinner, silent auction and more.

Tickets \$25, call 248.528.9199 or buy online at www.TPChelps.org

Spring Red Cross Blood Drive

Thursday, April 9

9 am-3 pm at the Troy Community Center &

2-8 pm at First Presbyterian Church, 4328 Livernois

Who can give blood? You must be at least 17, at least 110 lbs., and generally healthy. You can give blood as often as every 56 days.

How long does it take? From the time you arrive to the time you leave, it usually takes an hour. Actual time drawing blood is about 10 minutes. Please bring a photo ID.

Donating blood saves lives! Call 248.524.1147 today to make an appointment to do a good deed on April 9.

Rotary Raffle

The Rotary presents a 50/50 Raffle, the tickets are \$50

Minimum Cash Prize is \$5,000 for 1st Prize, 2nd-5th Prizes of \$200.

The drawing will be held at the Bank of America Headquarters on **April 25**. The event features a silent auction, roving dinner, and dancing. For raffle tickets or tickets to the fundraiser event, call 248.651.9348.

Troy Community Chorus Spring Concert

"Global Warbling"

Friday, May 1, 8 pm

Athens High School

Advanced Tickets: \$9 Adults, \$6 Seniors 60+ & Kids under 12

Tickets at door: \$12

Call 248.879.0138 or 248.310.4171 for tickets

www.troycommunitychorus.org